

know that we stand firmly behind them in the fight to cut their monthly drug costs. We cannot let our seniors down again this year. Let us do the right thing. Let us enact a real prescription drug program for all of our seniors so that they never have to cut back on the basic necessity to keep living.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 12 noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 20 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) at noon.

PRAYER

The Reverend Scott Custead, Zion Lutheran Church, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, offered the following prayer:

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, creator of the universe. All life is a gift from Your hands. All just pursuits serve Your purposes.

You have instituted government to be an instrument of Your will. You have given those who govern the responsibility to ensure the peace and good order needed for the proper functioning of society.

We, therefore, pray for those who have been called and set aside to serve our Nation in this body. May their actions serve Your purposes. May their deliberations be based in wisdom. May their goals be just. May they be supported in their work by the prayers of a grateful Nation.

In all that this body accomplishes and in all that we do as a Nation, may we be true to our calling to serve all people and to build a better tomorrow. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a

quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KUCINICH led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING PASTOR SCOTT CUSTEAD

(Mr. SHUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome our guest chaplain, Pastor Scott Custead, from Zion Lutheran Church in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. Pastor Custead is a graduate of California State University and received his Master's in Divinity from Pacific Lutheran Seminary in Berkeley, California. He has been an ordained minister since 1981. He has also served at various churches throughout the State of Pennsylvania and has served this country from 1986 to 1992 as an Army Reserve chaplain. From 1984 through 1985, Pastor Custead served as campus minister at Pennsylvania State University in State College, Pennsylvania.

In 1986, Pastor Custead came to my home parish in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, where I have had the privilege to come to know him and his family. As a parishioner of Pastor Custead's, I have seen firsthand his deep involvement within the community. Not only is Pastor Custead committed to the religious development of his church, he is also active in many civic organizations including the Hollidaysburg Children and Youth Service Board and is a member of various school and borough committees.

Pastor Custead resides in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Carol, also a minister at our church; and they are the proud parents of two children, Linnea, who is heading off to college this fall at the University of Pittsburgh, and Ryan, who will begin his first year of high school at Hollidaysburg Area Junior High School.

Mr. Speaker, Pastor Custead, or as he is known to Zion members, Pastor Scott, and his family have been a valuable part of our community for many years. It is an honor for me today to welcome him to the House of Rep-

resentatives, and I thank him for his continued dedication to his church, his community and his country.

DISPENSING WITH CALL OF PRIVATE CALENDAR ON TODAY

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the call of the Private Calendar be dispensed with today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Montana?

There was no objection.

HAITIAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL HERITAGE MONTH

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, last month we celebrated Haitian-American Cultural Heritage Month. I want to join all who took part in the commemoration of the rich Haitian culture. I want to send special thanks to Dr. Rosy Toussaint from the Haitian-American Cultural Society, North Miami Mayor Joe Celestin, artist Edward Duval Carrie, as well as Miami Dade Mayor Alex Penelas, for their hard work in making this month-long celebration a great success.

Daily activities of this month-long event were shared within south Florida and showed incredible examples of Haiti's colorful culture. These fabulous events included a Taste of Haiti extravaganza, entertaining film festivals, book and poetry readings, spectacular art exhibits and dance performances, all of which shone a bright ray of Haitian culture on our south Florida community.

I am very happy that the people of south Florida had a chance to celebrate the wonder and delight of the Haitian people and their beautiful traditions.

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM JAMES MADISON

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, the American people are being prepared for war with Iraq with little or no discussion in this House. Longstanding prohibitions against political assassinations of foreign leaders have been lifted with little or no debate in this House. A policy of strike-first preemptive attacks has been initiated, effectively nullifying the constitutional role of Congress under article 1, section 8 of the Constitution, assuring war at the whim of the President.

Our Nation is being plunged into a state of continual warfare. President Madison once said:

"Of all the enemies to public liberty, war is perhaps the most to be dreaded because it comprises and develops the